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EXAMINER
DILEVSKI, BORCE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
4144	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/18/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 March 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-7* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *12/21/2005* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

1. Claims 1-7 have been examined and are pending.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description:

1)   Reference number 304 in Figure 3

2)   Reference numbers 400 and 404 in Figure 4

3)   Reference number 500 in Figure 5

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5)

because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the

description:

1)   **Reference number 518 in Figure 5**

2)   **Reference number 705 in Figure 7**

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in

reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended

replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the

immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended.

Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be

labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant

to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the

applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the

next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

1)   **Page 6 Line 9 word 8 states "communication" but is a grammatical**

      error, examiner believes that the word should be "communicate" and

      will interpret it as such.

2)   **Page 6 line 17 word 4 and page 6 line 32 word 6 give reference to**

reference number 518 in figure 5 although no reference number 518

exists

3)   **Page 7 line 5 word 8 gives reference to reference number 705 in**

figure 7 although no reference number 705 exists

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO

00/35205 to Garcia-Martin et al.

As per claim 1, Garcia-Martin et al teaches a method of processing a

signaling message received from a service application and intended for

delivery to a network element having a point code, comprising:

retrieving, from a data store, an indication of the network type

associated with the point code (Fig. 4A and Page 4 Lines 10-14, A common

look-up table (data store) is used by all network types to map destination

signaling point (point code and an indication of the network type) identifiers to IP

addresses and port numbers (indication of the network type). When a message is

to be delivered, as can be seen in Fig. 4A, it is sent to the destination over the

network type based on the destination as per the look-up table);

processing the signaling message through one of a plurality of protocol

stack layers in accordance with the retrieved network type (Page 3 Lines 36-

38 and Page 4 Lines 1-8, Once the signaling point is received it is decided

(processing) whether to send it to a destination signaling point or to a destination

IP address (network type) where each network type has it's own protocol stack

as can be seen in Fig. 3).

As per claim 2, Garcia-Martin et al teaches a method according to claim

1, wherein

the step of processing further comprises processing the signaling

message in accordance with any one of message transport part layer 3

(MTP3) and MTP3 user adaptation layer (M3UA) (Page 4 Lines 19-21, A

method is disclosed where the signaling information is passed to the MPT3

level).

As per claim 3, Garcia-Martin et al teaches the method of claim 1, further

comprising

populating the data store with information relating to the network type

associated with each point code (Page 7 Lines 1-8, The look-up table (data

store) is modified (populated) after being used for one network type to include

information regarding the other network type).

As per claim 4, Garcia-Martin et al teaches the method of claim 3,

wherein the step of populating the data store is performed automatically

(Page 7 lines 17-24, There is an adaptation level that listens to predefined port

numbers and monitors the availability (automatic) of MTP3 levels to keep track

(populate) of changes in the network types).

As per claim 5, Garcia-Martin et al teaches apparatus for processing a

signaling message received from a service application and intended for

delivery to a network element having a point code, comprising:

retrieval means for from a data store an indication of the network type

associated with the point code (Page 4 Lines 10-14, A common look-up table

(data store) is used by all network types to map destination signaling point

identifiers to IP addresses and port numbers (network type));

a processor for processing the signaling message through one of a

plurality of protocol stack layers in accordance with the retrieved network

type (Page 5 Lines 17-19, Page 3 Lines 36-38, Page 4 Lines 1-8, An apparatus

is disclosed to receive a signaling point and deciding (processing) whether to

send it to a destination signaling point or to a destination IP address (network

type)).

As per claim 6, Garcia-Martin et al teaches apparatus according to claim

5, wherein

the processor is adapted to process the signaling message in

accordance with any one of message transport part layer 3 (MTP3) and

MTP3 user adaptation layer (M3UA) (Page 4 Lines 19-21, A method is

disclosed where the signaling information is passed to the MPT3 level).

As per claim 7, Garcia-Martin et al teaches apparatus according to claim

5, further comprising

automatic populating means for populating the data store with

information relating to the network type associated with each point code

(Page 7 Lines 1-8 and Page 7 lines 17-24, The look-up table (data store) is

modified (populated) after being used for one network type to include information

regarding the other network type. There is an adaptation level that listens to

predefined port numbers and monitors the availability (automatic) of MTP3 levels

to keep track (populate) of changes in the network types).

Prior arts made of record, not relied upon:

US 6,967,956 B1 to Tinsley et al discloses methods and systems for providing

message translation, accounting, and routing service in a multi-protocol

communications network environment

US 2005/0021768 A1 to Angermayr discloses interfacing of networks with

different protocols via a media gateway controller

US 2003/0016684 A1 to Prasad et al discloses signal transfer point with internet

protocol capability within a telecommunications network

US 7,035,239 B2 to McCann et al discloses methods and systems for routing

messages in a communications network

US 2003/0007496 A1 to Brown et al discloses a system, apparatus, and method

for dynamically mapping virtual signaling system 7 circuit identification codes for

use between voip gateways on ip-based networks

US 2002/0093981 A1 to Turina et al discloses signaling transport protocol

extensions for load balancing and server pool support

US 7,313,129 B1 to Bova et al discloses arrangement for sharing a single

signaling point code between multiple hosts in an ip-based network

US 6,823,061 B2 to Prasad et al discloses a method and system using ss7

signaling control connection part in a distributed network having shared point

codes

US 2002/0183060 A1 to Ko et al discloses map message processing system and

method for interworking between heterogeneous networks

US 2001/0029182 to McCann et al discloses methods and systems for routing

messages associated with ported subscribers in a mobile communications

network

WO 00/74409 to Larson et al discloses an integrated home location register and

ip-ss7 gateway

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to BORCE DILEVSKI whose telephone number is

(571)270-7154. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30AM - 5:00PM or

Flexible.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Taghi Arani can be reached on (571)272-3787. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BD

/Taghi T. Arani/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4144